

# California State Journal of Medicine.

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Medical Society of the State of California

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Communications on subjects of interest to the profession are invited. The "Journal" is not responsible for the views advanced by correspondents. Address letters relating to the "Journal" to the publication office, 31 Post Street, San Francisco.

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JANUARY, 1904.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

The JOURNAL is more than glad to felicitate every member of the Society upon the completion of its first year of life, and to extend to all its heartiest good wishes for a still more profitable New Year. From a mere child in long clothes, the Society has grown in one year to a pretty vigorous youth, representing the potential strength of something over one-half of the eligible physicians of the State. Its growth has been phenomenal and is increasing with marvelous rapidity. The last issue of the JOURNAL was several hundred copies larger than ever before, yet the additions to the list of members from the time the order was given to the time the JOURNAL was mailed were so many as to practically exhaust the December issue. Since the 1st of September nine county societies have been organized, with a total membership of 152. And it is not so much the actual as the relative membership, for these county societies have enrolled about four-fifths of the eligible physicians in their districts. That is good solid progress. The Register of Physicians has been issued and is a pretty good book. It will be issued every year, by the Society, and with the co-operation of county society secretaries can be made even more accurate than the present volume. We are considering the addition of physicians of Oregon and Washington, and making the Register a Tri-State Register. What do you think of the idea? The compliments of the season have been earned; we hope they will be even more deserved this time next year.

The editor has attended several meetings for the organization of county societies, and has been struck by one thing more particularly than any other—the desire of the physicians who get together to form such societies to omit the long, tiresome papers compiled from text books or journals, and to confine the work of the society meetings to short, pithy papers or reports that deal with practical questions and actual experiences. That is just what we all really need. Some men seem to have the diabolic faculty of putting together a mass of stuff making a paper of great length which is painful to even read for the printer, when everything that they had to say could have been said in one-tenth of the space. No one cares for such dissertations, for as a rule they contain mighty little real meat and a whole lot of fat and sinew. Mere length does not necessarily mean real merit. The JOURNAL is going to try to leave out these long papers of the sort indicated, and to keep its pages for papers of genuine worth of the practical sort, or papers that have sufficient merit to justify their length. All papers read at county society meetings should be sent to the publication office of the Society. If they are good, they will be published; if they are not, they *should not* be published. We cannot guarantee to publish every paper sent in, but if you will see to it that all papers read are sent to us, we shall certainly keep you well supplied with pretty good food for mental digestion. Start the new year right by acting upon this suggestion, and then size up the JOURNAL on the completion of Volume II.

On December 7th, before the Supreme Court sitting in bank, was called the case, *ex parte* Gerino, *habeas corpus*. For SUITS AGAINST THE EXAMINERS. Gerino appeared ex-judge Garoutte, and in defense of the statute Mr. Charles Wheeler made the argument upon the briefs prepared by attorneys Tait and McGuire. The contention of Mr. Garoutte was that the law regulating the practice of medicine was unconstitutional, for the reasons that (1) representation upon the Board was unfair and special legislation, the regular school having five members and the other schools but two each. And (2), that the clause in Sec. 5 of the act (as printed on page 181 of the Register), beginning "Said Board may, in its discretion accept and register \* \* \* without examination," etc., is class legislation and allows the Board to discriminate against an individual. To the first contention the reply was made that all governments had found the necessity to legally restrain and confine the practice of medicine to those who are properly qualified; that such regulation is a police measure; that the carrying out

Upon introducing the hand into the uterus it passed through a rent in the uterine wall and the undelivered head was discovered to have escaped from the uterine cavity and was lying under the stomach. While we were making hasty preparations to open the abdomen the patient went into profound collapse, and in a few minutes was dead.

An autopsy revealed a rupture in the uterus, at right angles to the cervix anteriorly just above the vaginal junction, about two inches in length, and another tear extending at right angles to this along the anterior uterine wall to the extent of six inches, and reaching almost to the fundus. There was considerable hemorrhage, but not sufficient to have caused death. The patient died from shock. It was easy to understand that the long second stage, during which the force of the uterine contractions had been expended in dilating and thinning the uterus, the result was that when turning was attempted this thin portion gave way. It was also very apparent what measures should have been adopted earlier. The head proved to be at least an inch greater in diameter than was any portion of the superior strait, and could not have been delivered except by performing craniotomy. This would have been extremely difficult, since the head was not engaged, and the course which would have offered the patient the best chance for life was abdominal section either during the first stage or early in the second.

I wish again to emphasize the fact that the real cause for rupture of the uterus lies in a prolonged second stage, and to call special attention to the two prominent symptoms of rupture, namely, rapid increase of the pulse rate and the entire cessation of uterine contractions.

#### DISCUSSION.

*Dr. G. A. Cole, Los Angeles*—I was very much interested in the report of this case. It reminded me of the report of a case I heard read in 1899 before the British Medical Association on this same subject, by a gentleman who was called in to see a woman who had presented a history of labor some twenty-four hours before. She had had very severe pains and the country practitioner had left her. Twenty-four hours later the author of the paper had been called and found the child in the abdominal cavity, ruptured uterus having occurred. There were two or three very interesting points; first, that the pains had ceased entirely on the rupture of the uterus. The patient had been in such a condition that the attending physician had gone off and left her and had not noticed the rupture of the uterus. And furthermore the patient, after the rupture, had been in such a condition that she was able to walk over a mile. The patient died; the abdomen was opened, but owing to shock and sepsis, the patient eventually died.

*Dr. O. O. Witherbee, Los Angeles*—I had a case of ruptured uterus exactly like the report, in which instance the second stage was prolonged, pains unusually vigorous and rather free hemorrhage previous to birth of child, but as child passed through there was little or no hemorrhage. On making careful examination, I found a rent of unusual length in the left aspect of the vaginal wall, including the cervix and

lower portion of the uterine body. Our attention was directed to it by the free hemorrhage. Fortunately I recognized it in time to prevent hemorrhage of such severity as to cause death, and with the aid of two nurses assisting me, and with pressure from without, I held the hemorrhage in control and fortunately was able to stitch this rent up with catgut. I speak of it merely as it comes to my mind. It certainly did approach abdominal rupture with hemorrhage so free that it endangered the life of the patient.

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#### PERSONALS.

*Dr. J. L. Maupin of Fresno*, who has been taking a post-graduate course in New York and Philadelphia, returned home on December 15th, and has resumed practice.

*Dr. Mrs. Jessie D. Hare*, who retired from the practice of medicine a few years ago, has again entered the ranks and become a member of the Fresno County Medical Society.

*Dr. J. H. Parsegan*, an active member of the Fresno County Medical Society, has located in San Francisco.

*Dr. J. R. Liverman*, who has been located at Kingsburg for the past year, has removed and is temporarily in San Francisco, taking a post-graduate course.

*Dr. C. J. Kjaerbye*, a former practitioner of Salt Lake City, Utah, has opened offices in Fresno.

*Dr. F. C. Galehouse of San Francisco* has located in Fresno, with the intention of making that place his home.

*Drs. George McChesney, William G. Moore and Robert A. McLean of San Francisco* are in New York. The two former are taking a special course in surgery.

*Professor M. Allen Starr, M. D., LL. D.*, of the Medical Department of Columbia University, of New York, has been elected a corresponding member of the Neurological Society of the United Kingdom, London. *Dr. Weir Mitchell* is the only other American member.

*Dr. James P. Booth* has removed from Needles, San Bernardino County, to Los Angeles, and has opened offices in the Bryson Block.

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**Secret Remedies**—"Why cannot the doctors write their own prescriptions and adapt their remedies to the ever-varying exigencies of disease? Why should the vender of proprietary and secret remedies be upheld by so many of the profession, when Edward Jenner, after twenty-two years of laborious experimentation and research, freely gave the priceless boon attained to mankind, and when he could have made countless billions of money from the whole world by dispensing it as a secret and sovereign remedy against a loathsome and desolating scourge?"—William T. Howard, M. D., in *An. Add. to Maryland Med. Society*.

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An obelisk of unpolished gray granite has been placed over Virchow's grave in the old Matthai graveyard, Berlin. It bears on one side a black marble tablet, on which is inscribed "Rudolph Virchow," and the date of his birth and death. A statue of Virchow will also be erected near the place where his scientific work was conducted.

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A statue in honor of the eminent French neurologist, M. Charcot, has been erected at Lemolon-les-Bains.

## COMMUNICATIONS.

FERNDALE, Cal., Dec. 8, 1903.

To the Editor of the State Journal:—On page 398 of the December number of the STATE JOURNAL, editorial department, I read under head of "A Title of Honor," that it is a debatable question as to whether or not there are too many doctors of medicine.

Will you kindly inform me through the columns of the JOURNAL what part of this question is debatable?

With at least seven institutions in our State actively engaged in grinding out M. Ds. how could there fail to be a most ridiculous oversupply of doctors?

Add to that the fact that there is one non-resident or foreign regular physician, to say nothing of Homeopaths and Eclectics, to every 700 inhabitants, duly registered and at liberty to enter practice in this State, should the chance offer, and to my mind it leaves still less chance for debate.

Will the present oversupply of medical colleges tend to increase sound medical education or will the mad struggle for existence lead these schools into disreputable actions, derogatory to the profession and will they not eventually become mere "doc." factories?

Again, kindly inform me how the dignified self-respecting physician is to be held responsible for the manners of his illbred neighbors. While it is almost a national custom to address the doctor as "Dawk," what is the self-respecting physician going to do about it? Very truly yours,

H. S. DELAMERE, M. D.

H. S. D.—Please, you are mistaken. We did not say that it is a debatable question whether there are too many doctors or not; we said, "it may be a debatable question." It might be, but it isn't—in our opinion. The only way to stop the too great increase is to raise the standards very high; and if the standards are raised very high, there is at once a great howl. As witness the suits against the constitutionality of the law regulating the practice of medicine. As to how to avoid being called "dawk," that is another question. You might, perhaps, have a lot of slips printed of the editorial in question, and when the epithet is applied, hand out one of these cards.—Ed.

**Pure Water for Ithaca**—The turbine pumps which deliver water to the new Fulton plant of the Ithaca Water Company were set in motion and the citizens of Ithaca and the students of Cornell are assured of an abundant supply of pure water. Although tests had been in progress in the plant several days, no announcement was made until yesterday that it was ready for operation. Six months ago Cornell loaned to the Ithaca Water Company \$150,000 for the building of the purification plant and work has been continuous since. The water, as soon as delivered to the receiving wells, is charged with a solution of sulphate of alumina, which forms a white, flaky precipitate. The water is then passed into coagulating basins, where 70 per cent of its impurities settle. It is then passed through six filters of a capacity of 3,000,000 gallons daily.—*Jour. A. M. A.*

## BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS.

The following list is that of the candidates at the last examination of the Board of Examiners. The (?) indicates that on the record furnished the Publication Committee no date of graduation was given. The (\*) refers to the fact, as stated, that this was the second examination taken.

*Examination December, 1903.*

## PASSED.

Albany Med. Coll., N. Y., '87, 81½%.  
American Med. Missionary Coll., Ill., (?), 77½%.  
Bellevue Hosp. Med. Coll., N. Y., '69, 75½%.  
Coll. Phys. and Surg., Cal., '02, 78%.  
Coll. Phys. and Surg., Ill., '01, 77½%; '03, 83%.  
Coll. Phys. and Surg., N. Y., (?), 77½%.  
Cooper Med. Coll., Cal., '98, 83%; '03, 78½%; '03, 78½%; '03, 77½%; '03, 75½%.  
Detroit Med. Coll., Mich., '76, 75; '02, 78½%.  
Hahnemann Med. Coll., Cal., '03, 80%; '03, 81½%; '03, 77%; '03, 81½%; '03, 77½%.  
Hahnemann Med. Coll., Ill., '03, 82½%.  
Harvard Univ., Mass., '91, 84½%; (?), 82½%.  
Ill. State Board of Health, Ill., '98, 83½%.  
Jefferson Med. Coll., Pa., '01, 81%.  
Johns Hopkins Univ., Md., '02, 78½%.  
McGill Univ., Canada, '99, 80½%.  
Med. Coll. of Ohio, '80, 85%.  
Northwestern Univ., Ill., '02, 82½%; '03, 83½%; '03, 80%.  
Royal Coll. of Surg., Eng., '95, 85½%.  
State Univ., Iowa, '83, 75½%.  
Univ. of California, '00, 76½%; '02, 86½%; '03, 82½%; '03, 83½%; '03, 84½%.  
Univ. of Iowa, Homeo., '96, 77½%.  
Univ. of Michigan, '94, 82½%; '01, 83½%.  
Univ. of Minnesota, (?), 75½%.  
Univ. of Pennsylvania, '89, 80½%; '93, 91½%; '00, 84½%.  
Univ. Southern California, '03, 78½%.

## FAILED.

American Med. Missionary Coll., (?), 70%.  
Coll. Phys. and Surg., Cal., '02, 59½%.  
Coll. Phys. and Surg., Ill., '95, 68; '01, 68%.  
Cooper Med. Coll., Cal., '03, 72½%; '03, 74½%.  
Detroit Coll., of Med., Mich., '96, 74½%.  
Faculty of Paris, France, '91, 69%.\*  
Hahnemann Med. Coll., Cal., '03, 73½%.  
L. I. Coll. Hosp., N. Y., (?), 64.  
Meharry Med. Coll., Tenn., '93, 56½%.  
Missouri Med. Coll., '89, 67½%.  
Omaha Med. Coll., Nebr., '99, 68½%.  
Rush Med. Coll., Ill., '90, 63%.  
State Univ. of Denmark, Copenhagen, '94, 66½%.  
University of S. Tennessee, '01, 73½%.\*  
Univ. of Vermont, '90, 69½%.

## CONDITIONED.

American Med. College, Missouri, '97, 75.  
Cleveland Hosp. Coll., Ohio, '86, 79%.  
Coll. Phys. and Surg., Baltimore, Md., '01, 75½%.  
Hahnemann Med. Coll., Cal., '03, 75%.  
Univ. of Michigan, '03, 77½%.

\*Second Examination.

**Longer Medical Course.**—The College of Physicians and Surgeons of the Province of Quebec is reported to have recently decided to lengthen the medical course to five years, and furthermore, voted that British licenses should no longer be recognized in that province. A more complete preliminary education as represented by the B. A. degree was also advocated for students of medicine. — *Boston Med. and Surg. Journal.*

## A CASE OF MASTOIDITIS WITH MENTAL DISTURBANCE.\*

By GEO. H. POWERS, M. D.

ON September 14, 1902, Mrs. X. Y. entered St. Luke's Hospital, San Francisco, with a vague account of a severe disease of the left ear, from which she was supposed to have recovered. She was very nearly unconscious and entirely irrational, lying on her back, with the head turned a little to the right, shrinking from a candle held near the eyes and from a speculum inserted in the ear, otherwise showing no sensation or intelligence. The pupils were dilated, reacting normally to light, and there was no strabismus and no change in the fundus of the eye. There was tendency to opisthotonos and the abdominal walls were rigid and somewhat contracted, these conditions continuing until full consciousness returned, nearly three weeks later. There was no mastoid swelling or tenderness whatever, but sensitiveness in the left auditory meatus, and the meatus walls were somewhat swollen, just enough to render impossible a satisfactory inspection of the membrana tympani, and there was no sign of purulent or other secretion in the visible part of the meatus.

Incision of the drum membrane, as free as could well be made in an invisible field, was followed by a trifling hemorrhage and later by a few drops of pus, and had the effect of rousing the patient to a very talkative mood. After the pain of the incision was over she expressed relief, but could not control her thoughts or memory nor her tongue, but chattered on wildly, willing to be interrupted for the asking of a question, but unable to answer intelligently and resuming her irrational talk immediately. For

two weeks the conditions remained much the same, alternating between comatose periods and lively irrational ones, during which she had to be tied to her bed and was kept there only with difficulty.

September 17, a lumbar puncture was made by Dr. Williams, interne, and pneumo-bacilli found. The same organisms were found in cultures made from the secretions of the ear. Patient was seen by Drs. Sherman, Evans, Kenyon, Donald Smith and several others during this time.

September 28, I decided to operate and freely opened up the antrum and mastoid cells down to the tip, finding no pus, but granular and polypoid detritus filling the cavities. As there was at this time no purulent secretion either in the ear or in the mastoid, I did not open communication with the middle ear. For a few days after operation the patient's condition was not improved, but rather worse, the tendency to opisthotonos and to stupor being greater, but before the end of the week improvement began in all directions and by the seventh day she was quite conscious and rational and went on to uninterrupted recovery, with perfect hearing in the affected ear. Highest temperature had been 101, highest pulse 110. Leukocytes 5200-7000.

My reasons for declining to operate when I first saw the patient were that, firstly, it was impossible at the time to find out any details of her previous illness beyond the bald statement that she had recovered from a disease of the ear; secondly, her symptoms seemed to me those rather of meningitis (hysteria was suggested), not certainly of aural origin; and, thirdly, I thought she was too near death to endure anesthetics and operation.

\* Read at the Thirty-third Annual Meeting of the State Society, Santa Barbara, April 21-23, 1903.

## CALIFORNIA COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETIES.

NAME	PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	MEETS
Alameda County Med. Association.....	O. D. Hamlin, Oakland.....	A. H. Pratt, Oakland.....	Second Tuesday
Contra Costa Medical Society.....	J. T. Brenneman, Martinez.....	J. S. Riley, Port Costa.....	First Monday, E. O. M.
Fresno County Medical Society.....	Geo. A. Hare, Fresno.....	Angus B. Cowan, Fresno.....	First Tuesday
Humboldt County Med. Society.....	R. Felt, Eureka.....	G. N. Drysdale, Eureka.....	Second Tuesday
Kern County Medical Society.....	N. P. Duncan, Hanford.....	Wm. S. Fowler, Bakersfield.....	Second Monday
Kings County Medical Society.....	Rose Talbot Bullard, Los Angeles.....	L. E. Felton, Hanford.....	First and third Friday
Los Angeles County Med. Society.....	W. J. Wickman, San Rafael.....	C. G. Stivers, Los Angeles.....	First Saturday
Marin County Medical Society.....	E. W. King, Talmage.....	W. F. Jones, San Rafael.....	Quarterly
Mendocino Co. Med. Society.....	Edw. S. O'Brien, Merced.....	C. A. Poage, Hopland.....	First Thursday
Merced County Medical Society.....	Thos. C. Edwards, Salinas.....	Walter E. Lilley, Merced.....	First Saturday
Monterey County Medical Society.....	Elmer E. Stone, Napa.....	Dorus Brumwell, King City.....	Quarterly
Napa County Medical Society.....	Wm. Freeman, Fullerton.....	J. L. Arbogast, St. Helena.....	Second Tuesday
Orange County Medical Assn.....	Chas. H. Bulson, Lincoln.....	H. S. Gordon, Santa Ana.....	March '04
Placer County Medical Society.....	Louise H. Clark, Riverside.....	R. F. Rooney, Auburn.....	Third Tuesday
Riverside County Medical Society.....	Thos. Ross, Sacramento.....	W. W. Roblee, Riverside.....	Third Tuesday
Sacramento Society for Med. Imp.....	James P. Booth, Needles.....	J. W. James, Sacramento.....	Second Wednesday
San Bernardino Medical Assn.....	Fred Baker, San Diego.....	J. H. Meyer, San Bernardino.....	First Friday
San Diego County Medical Society.....	J. Rosenstirn, San Francisco.....	Wm. F. Barbat, San Francisco.....	Second Tuesday
San Francisco County Med. Society.....	F. R. Clark, Stockton.....	W. S. Snedigar, Stockton.....	Last Friday
San Joaquin County Med. Society.....	J. S. Jackson, San Luis Obispo.....	E. A. Dial, San Luis Obispo.....	
San Luis Obispo County Med. Soc.....	Chas. Anderson, Santa Barbara.....	W. B. Cunnane, Santa Barbara.....	
Santa Barbara County Med. Assn.....	W. T. McNary, San Jose.....	J. Lambert Asay, San Jose.....	Third Wednesday
Santa Clara County Med. Society.....	Exeter P. Vaux, Santa Cruz.....	Saxton T. Pope, Watsonville.....	Quarterly
Santa Cruz County Medical Society.....	O. J. Lawry, Redding.....	R. F. Wallace, Redding.....	Quarterly
Shasta Co. Medical Society.....	J. W. Jesse, Santa Rosa.....	G. W. Mallory, Santa Rosa.....	Second Thursday
Sonoma County Medical Society.....	J. H. Love, Ventura.....	S. T. Pope, Watsonville.....	
Tri-County Medical Society.....	W. E. Bates, Davisville.....	A. A. Maulhardt, Oxnard.....	First Monday
Ventura County Medical Society.....	J. H. Barr, Marysville.....	F. R. Fairchilds, Woodland.....	
Yolo County Society for Med. Imp.....		G. W. Stratton, Marysville.....	Quarterly
Yuba and Sutter Cos. Medical Soc.....			

Secretaries of County Societies are requested to notify the JOURNAL of any changes in above directory.